TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

April 20, 2005 LB 709

them to withdraw theirs. I don't think that's fair to those individuals, and I would be willing, you know, to look at this, and I think it's...I think it's absolutely an issue that needs to be looked at. I think the results of the study that came out of the Performance Audit Committee would prove that. But I just think of a fairness issue, plus the lack of knowledge to the body of what it is that we're trying to adopt. So that's my reservation. It has absolutely nothing to do with the merits of the underlying amendment. I think if the merits of the underlying amendment are borne out, we will have this as an amendment on LB 709 on Final Reading, and the body can adopt it. But of course, we have to also address the concerns of Senator Chambers, and depending upon the results of those, this may not be an appropriate vehicle for this amendment. So I'm trying to figure out the appropriate way to be fair to the members that have been collegial this morning and still accomplish the goal that others would like to have in this area. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Erdman. Further discussion? Senator Beutler, are you available?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, we gave you an idea of what the bill is all about, and what the amendment is all about, and I think Senator Erdman is definitely right. It's unfair to ask him to proceed in this situation, so I'll withdraw the amendment, and I hope you'll keep it in mind. And with his permission, we'll try it on Final Reading. Since the bill is going to be brought back anyway, we'll try to bring it back and put it on at that particular point in time, if the body is amenable to that. But Senator Erdman's point is well taken, and I withdraw the amendment, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator, the amendment is withdrawn. Further discussion? Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I want those people who are supporting this bill to keep one thing in mind. This bill was heading for death. This bill was going to be killed. Senator Beutler has what I consider to be a rational amendment. If those who support this bill think that